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DOWNHAM RURAL DISTRICT

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR 1970

Including the Report of the Senior Public Health Inspector
(Mr. G.S.Sennitt, F.A.P.H.I., F.I.P.H.E., A.R.S.H.)

Dr. J. Mc.D. Hanley, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P., & S., D.P.H.

D O W N H A M R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

Offices: Priory Road, Downham Market.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH, WATER AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE:-

Chairman: Mr. G.E. Garfoot

Vice-Chairman: Mr. J.W. Kellingray

Mr. J.S. Bailey
Mr. Wm. H.Bentley (died 29.9.70)
Mrs. M.E. Bliss
Mr. A.J. Blott
Mr. W.A. Carley
Mr. A.K. Dewing
Mrs. J.R.F. Forgan
Mr. A. Fox
Mr. H.H. Grazier
Mr. A.J. Hawkins
Mr. B.L. Hawkins
Mr. A. Hipperson
Mr. F.W. Hyam
Mr. J.D.E. Lane
Mrs. E.M. Neville
Mr. R.H. Payne
Mr. E.R.M. Pratt
Mr. J.W. Turrell
Mr. J.R. Waterfall
Mr. R.R. Wilde

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council are ex-officio members of the Committee.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority

Medical Officer of Health:-

Dr. J. McD. Hanley, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P., & S., D.P.H.
Local Health Office, The Howdale, Downham Market.
Tel. Downham Market 3241.

also holds appointments of:-

County Departmental Medical Officer.
School Medical Officer.
Medical Officer of Health, Downham Market Urban District Council.
Medical Officer of Health, Marshland Rural District Council.
Medical Officer of Health, King's Lynn Borough Council.
Medical Officer of Health, Freebridge Lynn Rural District Council.

Senior Public Health Inspector:-

G.S. SENNITT, F.A.P.H.I., F.I.P.H.E., A.R.S.H.
Tel. Downham Market 3287. Residence D.M. 3364.

Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector:-

J.G.W. HURST, CERT. S.I.B.

Additional Public Health Inspector:-

K. STEELE, M.A.P.H.I.

Student Public Health Inspector:-

T.S. HUGGINS.

Clerk to the Health Department:-

Miss S.B. COX.

CLERK/TYPIST (Shared with Surveyor's Department)

MRS. E.J. ALLEN.

Vital Statistics

These show that the population is virtually static. Only 33 persons moved into the area last year.

The infant mortality rates are satisfactory and it is a pleasure again to record no maternal mortality.

Vaccination and Immunisation

The co-operation of parents with our staff to procure the immunisation of our school children is good and the numbers so protected are satisfactory.

The results of tests for sensitivity to tuberculous infection show that there is very little infection at all, and this merely endorses our results for the past five years or so.

Measles and rubella vaccination are now part of our normal programme. Girls in their 13th year receive rubella vaccination. This single injection seems to give life-long immunity to rubella, and protects against any possibility of congenital defects from rubella infection in the babies of mothers so protected.

Health Education

As in previous years we are continuing our efforts to inform the public about all aspects of healthy living and the avoidance of disease and its effects.

The schools and child health clinics are our main avenues of instruction and information as formerly.

Obesity in Children

This problem of malnutrition from excess feeding is difficult to tackle because eating habits are so long established in a family that change requires a strong and continued effort. To many parents a fat child is a credit to parental care and sentiment and they refuse to see anything unhealthy in this condition.

As yet we can only hope for aid from the most intelligent parents who are aware of the present climate of opinion in health matters, but it is unlikely that we shall have more success until more parents realise the significance of early obesity.

J. McD. HANLEY,
Medical Officer of Health.

Section A

Live Births	446
Rate per 1,000 population	17.4
Ditto for Administrative County	16.1
Ditto for England and Wales	16.0
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births	6
Death (all causes)	239
Rate per 1,000 population	10.9
Ditto for Administrative County	10.4
Ditto for England and Wales	11.7
Still Births	6
Rate per 1,000 total live and Still Births	13
Ditto for Administrative County	13
Ditto for England and Wales	13
Total Live and Still Births	452
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	6
Infant Mortality Rates	
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total Live Births	13
Ditto for Administrative County	15
Ditto for England and Wales	18
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Births	14
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	-
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	
(Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total Live Births)	7
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	
(Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total Live Births)	7
Peri-Natal Mortality Rate	
(Still Births and Deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total Live and Still Births)	20
Maternal Mortality (including Abortion)	
Number of Deaths	NIL
Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	NIL

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS - 1970

Number of Parishes	33
Area (in acres)	124,152
Population, 1931 (Census)	19,962
Population, 1961 (Census)	23,655
Estimated Population, 1970	26,020
Estimated number of separate Dwellings occupied, 1970	7,497
Estimated Rateable Value at 1st April, 1970	671,213
Product of a Penny Rate, 1970-71	2,721

Section B

1. County Medical Services

(a) District Nurses

This year's report does not include names of Nurses showing Parishes and Villages served. There are quite obviously changes throughout the year and current information will be readily supplied by the Local Health Office (Tel. Downham Market 3241 & 2).

(b) Health Visitors

This service is at present undergoing changes with Health Visitors on attachment to General Practitioners. Until the whole structure has become stabilized it is obviously impracticable to give detailed information. Again this will be supplied on request to the Local Health Office.

(c) Ambulance and Hospital Car Services

All Ambulances are now under overall supervision by the Ambulance Control Centre, County Hall, Norwich.

The Area is covered by the Ambulance Sub-Control Centre, Wellesley Street, King's Lynn. Telephone King's Lynn 4686 and Emergency King's Lynn 4298/9.

Infectious Diseases cases are conveyed by King's Lynn or Norwich Infectious Disease Ambulances.

The Hospital Car Service is administered from the Ambulance Sub-Control Centre, Wellesley Street, King's Lynn (Telephone King's Lynn 3503 & 3910).

(d) Child Health Clinics

(i) Downham Market - 2nd Thursday of each month 2p.m. - 4p.m.
(ii) Wimbotsham - 1st Thursday of each month 2p.m. - 4p.m.
(iii) R.A.F. Marham - 1st and 3rd Friday of each month 2p.m. - 4 p.m.

A Medical Officer is in attendance at the above Sessions.

In addition Weighing Clinics are held monthly at the following villages - Methwold, Southery, Shouldham, Wereham, Feltwell and Watlington.

(e) Home Help Service

Applications for Home Help assistance should be made to the Area Social Services Officer, Social Services Dept., The Granaries, Nelson Street, King's Lynn. This service is expanding steadily.

(f) Vaccination and Immunisation

Shown below are figures for immunisations carried out by general practitioners and medical staff in my Local Health Area during 1969. This area also embraces Downham Urban and Marshland Rural Districts.

Smallpox Vaccination

Primary vaccination		total	revaccination		Total
Under 5	5 - 15		Under 5	5 - 15	
285	14	299	10	32	42

Tetanus

Primary courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15		Under 8	8 - 15	
1060	35	1095	731	410	1141

Whooping Cough

Primary courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15		Under 8	8 - 15	
901	-	901	171	-	171

Diptheria

Primary Courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15		Under 8	8 - 15	
1048	17	1065	709	126	835

Poliomyelitis

Primary courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15		Under 8	8 - 15	
939	20	959	669	320	989

B.C.G. Vaccination

Number given the preliminary skin test	Number vaccinated	Number referred for Chest X-ray
433	397	-

Measles Vaccination

Under 8	8 - 15	Total
421	27	448

Rubella Vaccination

Females 13 - 14
218

2. General Medical Services

Norfolk Executive Council, Horse Fair House, 17 St. Faith's Lane, Norwich. Clerk F.H.Adams, Esq.

3. Venereal Disease Clinic

West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital.
Males: Tuesday 5.30p.m.-7.00p.m. Friday 4.00p.m.-5.00p.m.
Females and Children: Tuesday 3.00p.m.-5.00p.m. Friday 3.00p.m.-4.00p.m.

4. Disinfection and Disinfestation

Treatment of premises and articles is carried out by the Senior Public Health Inspector's Staff.

5. Laboratory Services

(a) Public Health Laboratory, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich.
Under the direction of Dr. I.M.Dowsett.

(b) Public Analyst, Dr. Eric Wood, Ph.D., A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C., Clarence House, 6 Clarence Road, Norwich.

(c) Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.

Table No.1

SECTION C

STATISTICAL TABLES, 1970

Causes of Death

Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	1	1
Malignant Meoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	4	-	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	3	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	15	1	16
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	3	-	3
Other Malignant Neoplasms	6	5	11
Benign and unspecified Neoplasms	-	2	2
Diabetes Mellitus	1	3	4
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	-	2	2
Other Diseases of Nervous System	-	1	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	-	1
Hypertensive Disease	3	1	4
Ischaemic Heart Disease	31	15	46
Other Forms of Heart Disease	6	3	9
Cerebrovascular Disease	24	25	49
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	13	6	19
Influenza	-	2	2
Pneumonia	6	7	13
Bronchitis and Emphysema	12	-	12
Other Diseases of Respiratory system	3	1	4
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	-	1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	-	3
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	1	1
Congenital Anomalies	2	3	5
Symptoms and Ill defined conditions	1	1	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	6	2	8
All other Accidents	-	3	3
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	-	2	2
Total All Causes	146	93	239

Table No. 2.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES - 1970

Notification in Age Groups

	AGES													TOTAL	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
	Under 1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-	Age Un-known			
MEASLES	4	7	15	23	13	48	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	114	-	
SCARLET FEVER	-	-	-	1	4	1	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	
ENCEPHALITIS	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	
INFECTIVE JAUNDICE	-	-	-	-	-	2		-	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	
TOTALS	4	7	15	24	17	52	5	6	1	1	-	-	-	132	-	

OPTHALMIA NEONATORUM, DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH, MENINGITIS, DYSENTERY, FOOD POISONING.

No cases recorded.

Table No. 3.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES - 1970

(Other than Tuberculosis)

DISEASE	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Tota
MEASLES	4	29	13	25	23	8	-	-	11	1	-	-	114
SCARLET FEVER	1	4	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	3	-	-	12
ENCEPHALITIS	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
INFECTIVE JAUNDICE	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	3
TOTALS	5	33	14	26	23	12	-	-	14	5	-	-	13

OPTHALMIA NEONATORUM, MENINGITIS, DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH, DYSENTERY, FOOD POISONING.

No cases recorded.

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS - 1970

3 Males - Ages 38, 73 and 87 - Respiratory.

2 Females - 1 Age unknown, 1 age 71 - Respiratory.

There were no deaths from the disease.

Section D
Report of the Senior Public Health Inspector

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

A report on the environmental health work of the Council during 1970 follows.

The declaration of "European Conservation Year" was an undoubted success in that the interest and concern of the majority of thinking people in the quality of their environment was stimulated to a considerable extent and it certainly appears that the concern is being maintained. The press did an excellent job in this sphere and it is essential that it should continue to do so.

It is unfortunate that financial stringency should so impede progress at this time, but mankind has to be persuaded that a higher priority to spending on environmental protection is absolutely vital.

The change of Government brought different ideas about the best way of "Reorganising Local Government", and discussion was intense in central and local government circles throughout the year. I feel, however, that the fact that an efficient local government structure is so necessary for the efficient management of the environment is not sufficiently stressed. "Local Government" does not, unfortunately, have the impact of words like "Pollution" in the public mind.

Events of note during the year were the defeat of the Methwold "Smell" and the decision to secure a weekly refuse collection service as soon as possible.

It is pleasing to record the success of the Student Public Health Inspector, Mr. T. Huggins in the Intermediate Professional Examination, and I am again indebted to the Council, my staff and other colleagues for continued co-operation and understanding.

Summary of Visits

Water Supply	12
Drainage	704
Refuse Collection and Disposal	268
Rodent Control	47
Atmospheric Pollution	168
Petroleum	12
Moveable Dwellings	106
Factories	8
Housing	1690
Street Naming and Numbering	53
Animal Boarding Establishments	2
Shops and Offices Act	26
School Canteens	4
Infectious Diseases	9
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	420
Fried Fish Shops	3
Miscellaneous Food	3
Ice Cream Premises	3
Grocers	16
Restaurants	7
Slaughterhouses	4
Meat Inspection	463
Butchers	20
Licensed Premises	1
Noise Abatement	12
Civic Amenities Act	138
Bakers and Confectioners	4
Diseases of Animals Act	1
Scrap Metal Dealers	2
Milk and Dairies	3
Total :	4209

1966 - 5397 1967 - 4584 1968 - 4688 1969 - 4049

It should be noted that only the primary purpose of each visit is recorded to give the monthly and annual report statistics. Enquiry is often made on matters covered by several Acts of Parliament at one premises.

COMPLAINTS AND NUISANCES REGISTERED

Complaints of smell from Methwold Factory	122
Drainage	64
Housing defects	17
Refuse Collection	19
Dumping of Refuse and Litter	9
Insect Infestation	13
Various	32
Total :	276
Total 1969 -	378

As in previous years, complaints relating to the smell discharged from the organic fertiliser/animal feeding stuff's factory at Methwold Hythe were vehement and continuous, and your staff were heavily committed.

The factory management continued to experiment with afterburning equipment during the first half year, and in particular catalytic afterburning was tried. This proved unsatisfactory, as the catalyst quickly became "poisoned".

Legal and practical difficulties arose during July and August as a result of changes in ownership of the factory, but the "breakthrough" occurred in August as a result of the employment of a high temperature afterburner of special design. No further complaints were received, and a settlement was reached in the High Court on 2nd October.

The Court made an Order restricting the operation of the factory to the daytime hours until 5th February, 1971; requiring the temperature of the exhaust gases to be not less than 550°C at all times, and also that the Council be kept informed of any substantial alteration to the equipment at the factory in the future.

The first complaints had been received in October, 1966, and were virtually continuous after that. As I mentioned last year, the patience of all concerned was sorely tried over the four years, and a lot of people "breathed" more than a sigh of relief at the satisfactory outcome, which happened to be in European Conservation Year. The Council decided an approach should be made to the Department of the Environment with a view to securing more control over such processes by means of "offensive trade" legislation.

NOTICES

59 informal letters and 3 formal notices were served in addition to Housing Acts Notices, and in addition verbal notice was often sufficient to bring about improvements required.

32 Notices were complied with, as were 29 Notices served in previous years.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

(a) General

Strengthened Food Hygiene Regulations were issued during the year, and these were due to operate from March, 1971. In particular, the business of packing and storing eggs, fruit or vegetables on farm premises is made subject to certain requirements, and will affect many undertakings in your area.

The County Council's staff made 44 inspections at 15 school canteens in the area, and conditions generally were satisfactory. A small quantity of food had to be condemned.

At 31st December, the following food businesses were operating from premises within the District:-

9 Fried Fish and Chip shops (In addition, two of the businesses operate mobile units.)
15 Butchers Shops, all of whom manufacture sausages etc.
4 Licenced slaughterhouses, where 100% meat inspection is carried out by the Council's Officers.
7 Cafes.
49 Licenced houses, including 5 clubs.
83 General Food Shops.
2 Factory Canteens.
5 Mobile General Shops.
1 Flour Depot.
1 Bread and Confectionery Distribution Depot.
92 Businesses selling ice-cream, but no ice-cream is manufactured in the district.

There were no businesses operating mainly as poultry slaughtering premises and no premises where "stunning before slaughter" was carried out.

(b) Meat Inspection

Table attached.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART DURING THE YEAR

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Goats
Number killed	941	-	1	1434	1612	-
Number inspected	941	-	1	1434	1612	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	2	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	61	-	-	8	63	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	6.4%	-	-	0.55%	4.03%	-
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	24	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1.04%	-
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

(c) Condemned Food

	lbs.
Beasts	
Head and Offal	869
Carcase Meat	354
Pigs	
Head and Offal	733
Carcase Meat	212
Sheep	
Offal	64
Carcase Meat	Nil

(d) Food Contamination

The only complaint concerned a few boxes of rice at Hockwold School. These contained larvae of the cacao bean moth, ephestia elutella.

(e) Milk and Dairies

9 Distributors are registered, as are 18 dairy premises. The increase in the number of dairy premises is largely due to grocers selling Ultra heat treated milk (long life).

Tests of Milk from the Council's district taken by the County Council's staff in 1970 gave the following results:-

Biological Examination of Milk (Brucella Abortus)

A total of ten samples was submitted from the only producer/retailer in the area and of these eight proved negative and the results of the remaining two samples are still awaited.

Methylene Blue Examination (Raw Milk)

Of the forty-one samples submitted for this test, thirty-nine proved satisfactory and two were rendered void due to the overnight temperature at the laboratory exceeding 70°F.

Phosphatase Examination (Pasteurised Milk)

Forty-one samples were submitted for examination and all proved satisfactory.

Turbidity Test (Sterilised Milk)

Only two samples were submitted for this test and both proved satisfactory.

Colony Count (Ultra Heat Treated Milk)

The two samples submitted for colony count were found to be satisfactory.

School Milk

Thirty-two samples from school milk supplies were examined during the year, all satisfied the phosphatase test, twenty-seven satisfied the methylene blue test with four rendered void and one unsatisfactory result.

(f) Slaughtermen

At 31st December, there were 15 licenced slaughtermen living in the District.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There were no offensive trades within the meaning of Sec. 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936 operating in the district. As mentioned previously, the Council did decide to investigate as to whether the trade of poultry manure drying could be scheduled.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

During August there were, as far as could be ascertained, 225 permanent residential caravans in the district, 5 holiday chalets, 3 holiday vans (touring), 17 holiday vans (static) and 4 agricultural vans (seasonal).

No solution had been found to the problem of an occupied van parked on a public road verge.

Part II of the Caravan Sites Act, 1968 relating to Gypsy Encampments was brought into force as from 1st April, 1970. The County Council were informed that in your Council's opinion there was no problem in this district, and there was no information at the end of the year about the location of any site in the vicinity.

HOUSING

(a) Housing Acts and Council Housing

24 bungalows were completed for the Council during the year and in addition the warden's residence and 16 flatlets at Hilgay. At the end of the year, 53 further dwellings were under construction and 6 pre-war dwellings were being modernised.

The Council owned 1584 dwellings, including 22 flats.

23 families were rehoused from grossly unfit houses, whilst 32 houses were demolished and 23 closed.

Improvement Grants approved

Year	Standard	Discretionary
1962	40	22
1968	76	4
1969	62	3
1970	65	17

The greater number of discretionary grants approved was welcomed, and was doubtless due to the raising of the grant ceiling from £600 to £1000 by the Housing Act, 1969.

(b) Rent Act, 1957

Only one application was received for a Certificate of Disrepair, but repairs were carried out before a certificate was issued.

No applications were received for cancellation of the few existing Certificates.

(c) Private Enterprise Housing

168 permanent houses and bungalows were completed during the year, and 52 were under construction at the end of the year. 90 were completed in 1969

PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) Refuse Collection and Disposal

The 'kerbside' collection of refuse once a fortnight was continued, but by arrangement, the Norfolk County Council's Work Study Unit commenced an intensive study of the Council's service with a view to the institution of an incentive bonus scheme as soon as possible. The Unit was asked at the same time to preparefor a weekly collection service if possible. The delivery in July of a 70 cub. yard Dennis 'Paxit' Continuous loading vehicle in addition to the 50 cub. yard 'Paxit' Major delivered a year earlier, had greatly eased the pressure on the service.

The 'Bray' tractor shovel continued to give excellent service.

Two old car bodies were removed by the Council and many others were dealt with, many informally, several after service of Notice, under the provisions of the Civic Amenities Act.

(b) Pail Emptying

The Council gave consideration to the general termination of this service in Hilgay, Ten Mile Bank, Downham West and Fincham.

Originally it was decided to terminate in February, 1971, but in December an extension of one year was given in the case of Ten Mile Bank, Downham West and Fincham in view of drainage difficulties and social circumstances.

(c) Cesspool Emptying

The number of cesspools etc., emptied again increased, and the two contractors carried out the bulk of the work. The Council's vehicle was engaged mainly on pail emptying and desludging of the Council's smaller sewage treatment plants.

No. of Cesspools emptied

Year	Purle Waste Disposal Ltd.	Council	Egmore	Total
1962	607	289	-	896
1964	783	257	-	1040
1966	1013	325	-	1356
1968	1169	484	58	1732
1969	574	295	1197	2066
1970	432	370	1502	2304
Sewage Plants and Special Tanks Emptied				
1962	1	76	-	77
1964	-	69	-	69
1966	-	114	-	114
1968	-	79	-	79
1969	-	104	2	106
1970	-	79	2	81

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The County Council's Public Health Engineering Department continued with the preparatory work on the main sewerage schemes for the No. 5 area - Watlington/Runcton/Wiggenhalls and the No. 6 area - Wereham/Boughton/Crimplesham/Stoke Ferry/Northwold and Methwold.

In February, the Council were informed that the bearing capacity of the soil at Watlington was insufficient to support the conventional sewerage plant as designed. However, a relatively new and simple process was recommended known as the "Pasveer Oxydation Ditch System" and after a committee had seen a plant operating, the design of such a plant was authorised.

The main sewage treatment plants at Southery, Feltwell, Fordham and Barton Bendish and housing site plants were maintained regularly and satisfactorily by your Surveyor's Department. The services of the laboratory at Attleborough were always available.

The usual troubles were experienced due to the lack of main drainage, and the general inability of cesspools/septic tanks to cope under modern conditions cannot be stressed too often.

PETROLEUM ACTS

Close supervision is maintained in regard to the maintenance of safe conditions at Petrol Filling Stations, both public and private, in the District. 140 premises were licenced, including 44 licenced to sell retail.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - SECTION 50.

No burials were carried out by the Council during the year.

THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER, 1957

Administration of this Order is delegated to the Council by the County Council. Only one person was collecting swill as far as is known. Proper sterilisation of this swill is highly important in preventing the spread of animal disease. Considerable concern was being shown at the rapid spread of a fowl pest outbreak in the County at the end of the year.

OPEN AIR SWIMMING POOL, WAR MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELD, DOWNHAM MARKET

There were no public health problems during the year.

THE ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Three establishments at Methwold, Stoke Ferry and Runcton Holme were licenced during the year, and conditions were satisfactory.

THE SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

At the end of the year, 13 registrations were in force.

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

This Act makes provision for the safety, health and welfare of persons employed in shops, offices and railway premises.

26 visits were made under the Act.

TABLE A REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS	(1) Class of premises	(2) Number of premises registered during the year.	(3) Total Number of registered premises at end of year.	(4) Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
	Offices	2	7	1
	Retail Shops	1	47	12
	Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	3	-
	Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	1	-
	Fuel storage depots	-	5	-
	TOTALS	3	63	13

TABLE C ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE	Class of workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
	Offices	16
	Retail Shops	80
	Wholesale departments, warehouses	15
	Catering establishments open to the public	10
	Canteens	-
	Fuel Storage Depots	5
	TOTAL	126
	Total Males	55
	Total Females	71

The response to letters requiring compliance with various provisions of the Act was good, and it was not necessary to recommend any formal action.

WATER SUPPLIES

(a) Main Piped Supplies

General

The District is well served by water mains, and the number of properties not able to have mains water is now very low. Quite a large number, however, are supplied by standpipes, and many terraces have joint standpipes. The policy of the Council is to require water to be provided in pipes inside the house whenever reasonable and practicable.

The Wisbech and District Water Board were responsible for three sources of supply to the Rural District viz., the northern half from the River Nar and bore at Marham and the southern half from the bores at Denton Lodge, Feltwell and Beechamwell.

I am indebted to the Board's Engineer and Manager, Mr. C. Llanwarne, B.Sc. Tech., A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.W.E., for the following information:-

Water Analyses 1970 - Rural District of Downham

Frequent bacteriological examinations have been undertaken during 1970 on samples from the Board's sourceworks and the distribution system in this area. The results have been of a very high standard. Many chemical analyses have also been carried out.

All new mains were sterilised, samples taken and bacteriological examinations made before the mains were put into service. No connections were permitted until the water in the mains was of the highest standard of purity.

There were no cases of contamination of the water supply in Downham Rural District during 1970.

WISBECH AND DISTRICT WATER BOARD

Water Analyses 1970 - Rural District of Downham

SUMMARY OF EXAMINATIONS AND ANALYSES

Samples Taken	Bacteriological Examinations			Chemical Analyses
Board's Works	No. of Tests Taken	No. of Tests Negative	No. of Tests Positive	
Raw Water	245	238	7	
Treated Waters	557	557	0	
Taps (Consumers)	106	106	0	
Totals	908	901	7	167

Total of all examinations and analyses = 1,075

Out of the total of treated water samples and samples taken from consumers' taps 100% were negative on examination for organisms of the coliform group. This represents a very high standard of bacterial purity.

J.S. COLLINS,
Chemist and Bacteriologist.

1st February, 1971

WISBECH AND DISTRICT WATER BOARD

WATER EXAMINATION LABORATORY

ANALYSIS OF WATER SAMPLE

Received 9.30a.m. 10th November, 1970 Lab. No. R.1246

From Distribution System off Marham Pumping Station and Bexwell Reservoir

Labelled Tap, Water Board Offices, Oldfield Lane, Wisbech.

Taken by B.Peters Date and Time 10/11/70 9.30a.m.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Appearance	Clear and Bright	pH.	7.2
Turbidity (units)	Nil	Odour	Nil
Colour (Hazen units)	Nil	Taste	Nil

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Free carbon dioxide	26.4	Aluminium (Al)	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C	0.06	Calcium (Ca)	96.3
Ammoniacal nitrogen	Nil	Iron (Fe)	Faint Trace
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.02	Magnesium (Mg)	6.12
Nitrate nitrogen	9.3	Manganese (Mn)	Nil
Nitrite nitrogen	Nil	Lead (Pb)	Nil
Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$	205	Sodium (Na)	Not examined
Hardness as $CaCO_3$		Zinc (Zn)	Nil
Total	266	Silica (SiO_2)	5.0
Carbonate (temporary)	205	Sulphate (SO_4)	38.4
Non-carbonate (permanent)	61	Carbonate (CO_3)	123
Residual chlorine	0.30	Chloride (Cl)	25
Total solids, dried at 180°C	Not examined	Fluoride (F)	Nil

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of bacteria growing on agar per ml. in 24 hrs. at 37 0 0
Number of bacteria growing on agar per ml. in 72 hrs. at 20°-22°C 0
Coliform count per 100 ml. 0
Bact. coli I count per 100 ml. 0

REPORT The above results indicate a water pure and wholesome in character. It is suitable both chemically and bacteriologically as a public supply for drinking and domestic purposes.

Date: 11th December, 1970

J. S. Collins
Chemist and Bacteriologist

WISBECH AND DISTRICT WATER BOARD

WATER EXAMINATION LABORATORY

ANALYSIS OF WATER SAMPLE

Received 12.30p.m. 16th November, 1970 Lab. No. R.1275

From Denton Lodge Pumping Station

Labelled Denton Lodge Raw Water

Taken by B.Peters Date and Time 16/11/70 11.20a.m.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Appearance	Clear and Bright	pH.	7.3
Turbidity (units)	Nil	Odour	Nil
Colour (Hazen units)	Nil	Taste	---

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Free carbon dioxide	14.3	Aluminium (Al)	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4hrs. at 27°C	0.08	Calcium (Ca)	70
Ammoniacal nitrogen	Nil	Iron (Fe)	Nil
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.02	Magnesium (Mg)	3.50
Nitrate nitrogen	6.9	Manganese (Mn)	Nil
Nitrite nitrogen	Nil	Lead (Pb)	Nil
Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$	165	Sodium (Na)	Not examined
Hardness as $CaCO_3$		Zinc (Zn)	Nil
Total	188	Silica (SiO_2)	5.0
Carbonate (temporary)	165	Sulphate (SO_4)	12.9
Non-carbonate (permanent)	23	Carbonate (CO_3)	99
Residual chlorine	---	Chloride (cl)	15
Total solids, dried at 180°C	254	Fluoride (F)	0.05

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of bacteria growing on agar per ml. in 24 hrs. at 37°C 0
Number of bacteria growing on agar per ml. in 72hrs. at 20°- 22°C 0
Coliform count per 100 ml. 0
Bact. coli I count per 100 ml. 0

REPORT The above results indicate a water pure and wholesome in character which will be suitable after precautionary chlorination as a public supply for drinking and domestic purposes.

Date: 11th December, 1970

J.S.Collins
Chemist and Bacteriologist

(b) Small Water Supplies

Only one sample was taken for bacteriological examination during the year, and this was satisfactory. No samples of well water supplies used for infant feeding were submitted to the County Council during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Particulars on the Administration of the Act.

Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	96	9	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises). (These are building sites).	63	20	-	-
Totals:	159	29	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	1	-	2	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
Total:	2	1	-	-	-

3. Part VIII of the Act

12 outworkers were known to be employed in the District. They were mostly employed on the making of paper firework cases.

4. The District Council is mainly concerned with the enforcement of the law

relating to sanitary conveniences at Factories in which mechanical power is utilised, although general powers are provided under the Public Health Acts and Food and Drugs Acts to deal with certain conditions at Factories, and in relation to infectious disease.

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are none in this District.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

The height of two new chimney stacks was approved during the year, and no other formal action was necessary.

DESTRUCTION OF PESTS

(a) Rats and Mice

The Council employs one Rodent Operator who is provided with a small van and the necessary equipment. A lock-up store is provided for poisons and baits.

The Council is charged with the duty of ensuring that owners and occupiers keep their land free of rats and mice. Whilst free treatment or advice was given at domestic premises, a charge of 14/- per hour was made at 31 business and 23 agricultural premises.

459 separate treatments were carried out and 1870 visits were made during the year.

(b) Other Pests

The refuse tips were treated regularly with insecticide against fly and cricket infestations, and private premises were occasionally treated for cockroach, flea, ant and silverfish infestations.

Ninety-four wasps nests were also destroyed.

G.S. SENNITT,
Senior Public Health Inspector.